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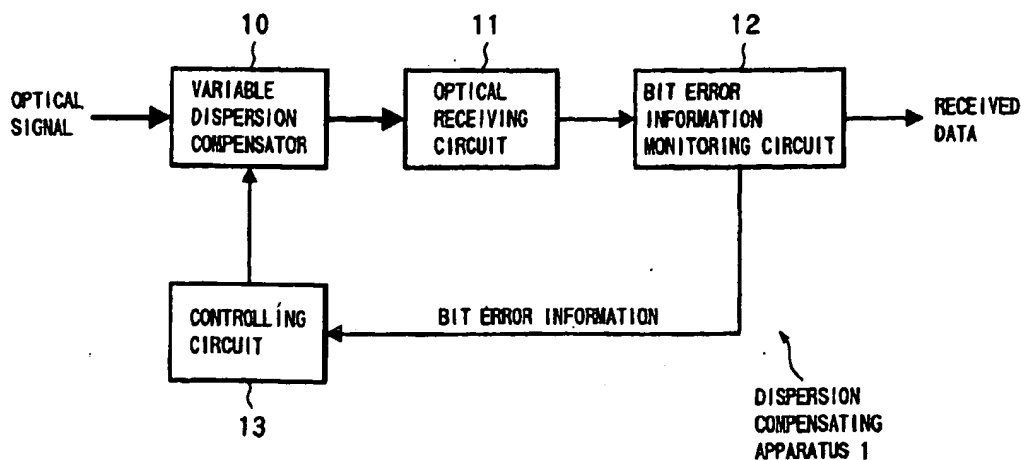
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(54) **Dispersion compensating method, dispersion compensating apparatus and optical transmission system**

(57) The present invention aims at realizing a dispersion compensating method capable of readily conducting automatic compensation of waveform degradation caused by dispersion characteristics of an optical transmission path, and at providing a dispersion compensating apparatus and an optical transmission system, of a smaller size at a reduced cost. To this end, the dispersion compensating apparatus of the present invention comprises: a variable dispersion compensator

for compensating for the dispersion of optical signal input via an optical transmission path; a bit error information monitoring circuit for generating bit error information of a received signal output from the variable dispersion compensator via an optical receiving circuit; and a controlling circuit for optimally controlling a wavelength dispersion value of the variable dispersion compensator based on the bit error information from the bit error information monitoring circuit.

**FIG.1**



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>MUNICH</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>20 April 2004</b>	Examiner <b>Rolan Cisneros, E</b>
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date O : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 20 April 2004	Examiner Rolan Cisneros, E
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X: particularly relevant if taken alone  Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category  A: technological background  O: non-written disclosure  P: intermediate document</p> <p>T: theory or principle underlying the invention  E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date  D: document cited in the application  L: document cited for other reasons  &amp;: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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